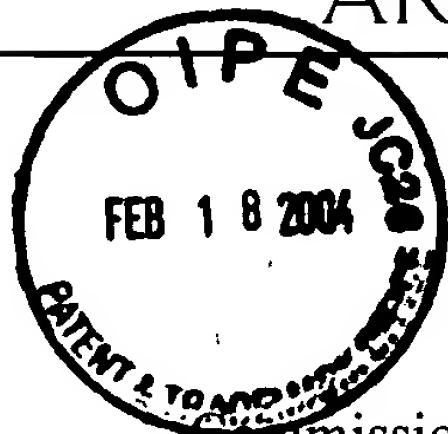


Image

1631

ARNOLD & PORTER LLP



February 18, 2004

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Attn: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment

Re: U.S. Patent Application No. 09/960,481
Filed: September 24, 2001
Title: **Nucleic Acid Molecules and Other Molecules Associated with Plants**
Applicants: Joseph R. BYRUM *et al.*
Atty. Docket No.: 16517.310

Sir:

The following documents are forwarded herewith for appropriate action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO):

1. Appointment of Associate Attorneys;
2. Amendment and Reply to the Office Action mailed November 18, 2003; and
3. Return postcard.

Please stamp the postcard with the filing date of these documents and return it to our courier.

In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned. Applicants do not believe any fees are due in conjunction with this filing. However, if any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17 are required in the present application, including any fees for extensions of time, then the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Arnold & Porter Deposit Account No. 50-2387, referencing matter number 16517.310. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel L. Adams

Rachel L. Adams (Reg. Attorney No. 54,660)
Holly Logue Prutz (Reg. Attorney No. 47,755)
David R. Marsh (Reg. Attorney No. 41,408)

Attachments